

Due to recently passed legislation, the Board of Social Work and the Board of Behavioral Science have both adopted emergency rules affecting supervision requirements, which became effective on June 30, 2021.

The updated supervision rules remove all in-person supervision requirements for master level social workers who are completing their supervised professional practice and for temporary mental health counselors and marriage and family therapists who are completing their supervised clinical experience. Supervision for master level social workers may occur in-person or through electronic means (audio and visual). Supervision for temporary mental health counselors and marital and family therapists may occur in-person, through electronic means (audio and visual), or by telephone (up to 50% of all supervision).

In addition, the updated supervision rules allow for independent level social workers to supervise temporary mental health counselors and marriage and family therapists, and allow for mental health counselors and marriage and family therapists to supervise master level social workers. All supervisors must have at least 3 years of independent practice experience and must complete a 6-hour counting education course or master's level course in supervision.

If you are a supervisor or supervisee, please review the entirety of the updated supervision rules to ensure you understand the requirements. In addition to the emergency adoption of these rules, the rules will also go through the standard rulemaking process, which involves an opportunity for public comment. The updated rules are available [ARC5795C](#) and the public comment period runs through August 17, 2021.

Please be aware that the recently passed legislation also directs the Board of Social Work and the Board of Behavioral Science to work collaboratively to develop more uniform standards governing the supervision requirements for these professions. This process will be ongoing and licensees can expect the supervision rules to be updated again at the completion of this process.